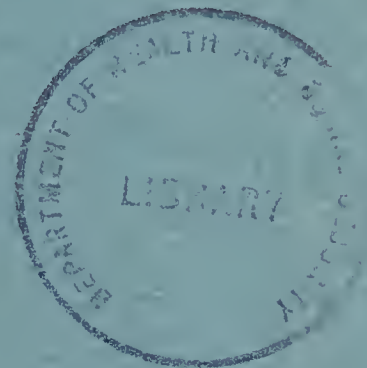


DORKING URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL



THE
1971
ANNUAL REPORT
for
THE DISTRICT

by

G. A. JACKSON, B.Sc., M.B., B.Ch., D.P.H., M.F.C.M.

Medical Officer of Health

and

G. A. FAULKNER, M.A.P.H.I., M.R.S.H.

Chief Public Health Inspector

Public Health Department
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DORKING URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL

PUBLIC HEALTH COMMITTEE 1971-1972

Chairman of the Committee

Councillor MRS. M. BRYAN

Vice-Chairman of the Committee

Councillor MRS. T. A. G. MARTIN

Members of the Committee

Councillor MRS. S. L. CARPENTER, Councillor G. R. MANNERS, C.Eng., M.I.C.E.

Councillor O. NICHOLSON-FLORENCE, F.C.A., Councillor C. B. SEARSON

Councillor P. F. B. TATHAM, M.A., M.I.C.E.

Ex Officio Members

Chairman of the Council

Councillor I. H. FRASER, F.C.A.

Vice-Chairman of the Council

Councillor J. P. J. KEELING, B.Sc.(Eng.), M.I.E.E.

Representatives of the Council

on

1. MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH JOINT COMMITTEE

Councillor MRS. M. BRYAN, Councillor F. V. KENWARD

Councillor O. NICHOLSON-FLORENCE, F.C.A.

2. DORKING & DISTRICT TUBERCULOSIS AFTER-CARE COMMITTEE

Councillor MRS. T. A. G. MARTIN

3. SURREY COUNTY COUNCIL SOUTH-EASTERN DIVISIONAL SOCIAL SERVICES SUB-COMMITTEE

Councillor E. H. SIMONS

DORKING URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL

STAFF OF THE PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT

Medical Officer of Health

*G. A. JACKSON, B.Sc., M.B., B.Ch., D.P.H., M.F.C.M.

Chief Public Health Inspector

G. A. FAULKNER, M.A.P.H.I., M.R.S.H.

Deputy Chief Public Health Inspector

A. E. GREENSMITH, M.A.P.H.I., M.R.S.H.

Additional Public Health Inspectors

D. D. HEATH, M.A.P.H.I.

T. E. D. BRAY, M.A.P.H.I.

Technical Assistant (Meat Inspection)

A. B. ANDERSON

Pest Control Officer

G. ANSCOMB

Medical Officer of Health's Clerical Staff

Secretary/Clerk MISS E. E. NOLAN

Shorthand Typist/Clerk MRS. E. LOCK

Chief Public Health Inspector's Clerical Staff

MRS. D. SCAMMELL

MRS. S. M. NEWMAN

*The Medical Officer of Health and his clerical staff act in a similar capacity for the Leatherhead Urban District and the Dorking and Horley Rural District.

THE RED HOUSE,
LEATHERHEAD,
SURREY.

July 1972.

MR. CHAIRMAN, LADIES AND GENTLEMEN,

The Spring of 1971 saw changes in the Medical Officer of Health's Department. We were all very sorry to see Dr. Plumley leave us for pastures new in Epsom. I left shortly before to take a new position in Guildford, only to return in July as Acting Medical Officer of Health and finally in my present position in October. I am very happy to be with you again as I feel that Dorking Urban District Council is one of the most progressive small authorities in the County.

I am glad to report that infectious diseases have only been sporadic and have not been a problem. Routine smallpox vaccination is not now advised for children in this country. The Department of Health and Social Security has been advised that complications from vaccination are greater than the dangers of the disease. It is still essential for those at risk and for travellers to endemic areas. I, personally, feel that this advice is somewhat premature. Vaccination is still available at parent's request. German measles vaccination is advised in early teenage girls and it is hoped that this will eliminate the risk of foetal abnormalities in years to come.

The birth rate is up on the previous year. This does not reflect the national trend, but is still below the average for England and Wales. The number of illegitimate births is 26, a rise of from 6 to 9% of the total. This is an unwelcome trend, and raises many questions including publicity for the Family Planning services available jointly by the Family Planning Association and the Surrey County Council. General Practitioner service is also available. The infant death rate is up on 1970 but this was an abnormally low figure. It is similar to 1969.

The total number of deaths due to cancer remain fairly static, including lung cancer. Twenty is a high figure, however, for a small urban district. Smoking is largely responsible. It is very worrying when the condition is almost completely preventable. The national figure for lung cancer deaths is 30,000 and is the highest ever. Are we logical in tolerating the situation? If 10% of these deaths occurred in a major disaster there would be national outrage. Deaths due to heart and blood vessel disease are still very high. Medical research shows that the age of onset can be greatly postponed by our eating habits. If one's weight is kept within normal limits these diseases are much less frequent.

May I commend the work of the Old People's Welfare Committee and all the voluntary helpers. We must always be on the look out for the old and the lonely who need help.

My position as Medical Officer of Health will disappear under the new Local Government reform. The future is far from clear but it is likely that a community physician will be available to the new Council in an advisory capacity.

I would like to thank all Councillors, and especially the Chairman and Members of the Public Health Committee for their help and encouragement during this year of change. My sincere thanks are also due to Mr. G. A. Faulkner and his very able colleagues and Secretarial staff for their help and co-operation. My thanks also go to the Chief Officers for all their help and advice at all times. My own Secretary and her Assistant have given yeoman service through difficult times, and I am most grateful for their help.

I am, Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

G. A. JACKSON,

Medical Officer of Health.

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH FOR THE YEAR 1971

1. VITAL STATISTICS FOR THE YEAR

	1971	1970	1941
Area (acres)	9,511	9,511	9,511
Population (Census 1971, 1961, 1931)	22,354†	22,604	15,204
Population (estimated mid-year)	22,680	22,680	21,420
Density (persons per acre)	2.42	2.42	2.42
Number of inhabited houses	7,541	7,364	*
Rateable Value	£1,239,134	£1,214,320	*
Product of a Penny Rate	£12,040	£4,900	*

BIRTHS

<i>Live Births</i>	<i>Total</i>	<i>Male</i>	<i>Female</i>			
Total . . .	292	143	149			
Legitimate .	266	132	134			
Illegitimate .	26	11	15			
				1971	1970	1941
Live birth rate per 1,000 estimated population				12.9	12.2	13.1
Standardised birth rate per 1,000 estimated population				12.5	11.8	*
Illegitimate live birth rate % of total live births				9.0	6.0	*
<i>Still Births</i>	<i>Total</i>	<i>Male</i>	<i>Female</i>			
Total . . .	4	2	2			
Still birth rate per 1,000 live and still births				14.0	11.0	24.4

DEATHS

		1971	1970	1941
	<i>Total</i>	<i>Male</i>	<i>Female</i>	
Total . . .	281	135	146	
Crude death rate per 1,000 estimated population		12.4	13.4	13.0
Standardised death rate per 1,000 estimated population		10.9	11.8	

Deaths of all Infants under 1 year of age

	<i>Total</i>	<i>Male</i>	<i>Female</i>
Total . . .	3	3	—
Legitimate .	2	2	—
Illegitimate .	1	1	—

Infant mortality rate per 1,000 live births:

Total	10.0	18.0	34.9
Legitimate	8.0	15.0	28.1
Illegitimate	38.0	63.0	100.0

Neonatal Mortality	1971	1970	1941
Number of deaths of infants under 4 weeks of age	2	3	*
Neonatal mortality rate per 1,000 live births	7.0	11.0	*
Early Neonatal Mortality			
Number of deaths of infants under 1 week of age	2	2	*
Early neonatal mortality rate per 1,000 live births	7.0	7.0	*
Perinatal Mortality			
Still births and deaths under 1 week per 1,000 live and still births	20.0	18.0	*
Maternal Mortality			
Maternal deaths (including abortions) .	—	—	—
Maternal mortality rate per 1,000 live and still births	—	—	—

**Figures not produced in 1941*

†*Preliminary report—1971*

The Registrar General’s estimate of population of 22,680 for mid-year 1971 has been used for statistical purposes in the preparation of this Report.

BIRTHS

Live births numbered 292 of which 143 were males and 149 females. The crude birth rate was 12.9 per 1,000 population which is slightly higher than the previous year, when the rate was 12.2.

As sex and age distribution affect local birth rates and invalidate comparison with the rates of other populations, the comparability factor (0.97) supplied by the Registrar General, when applied to the crude birth rate, gives a figure which may be used for purposes of comparison with other areas. On application of this factor a standardised birth rate of 12.5 is obtained, compared with a rate of 16.0 for England and Wales.

Twenty-six births, or 9.0 per cent of the total births, were registered as illegitimate, a rise of 3.0 per cent on the previous year.

Four still births occurred giving a still birth rate of 14.0 compared with 11.0 in 1970.

DEATHS

Deaths assigned to the district numbered 281 made up of 135 males and 146 females. The crude death rate was 12.4 per 1,000 of the estimated population, compared with 13.4 in the previous year.

As in the case of births, the comparability factor (0.88) provided by the Registrar General, has been applied to the crude death rate for use in comparing the local death rate with those of other areas. The factor makes allowance for the differing age and sex distribution of local populations. Application of the factor reduces it from 12.4 to 10.9. The death rate compares favourably with the figure of 11.6 for England and Wales.

Deaths due to Cancer

(including mortality rate for Lung Cancer from 1950 onwards)

Year	Total Deaths	Rate per 1,000 Population	Lung Cancer	
			Rate per 1,000 Population	Male % of Deaths
1926–1935	192	1.7	—	—
1936–1945	338	1.8	—	—
1946–1949	164	1.0	—	—
1950–1955	246	2.0	0.40	83.5
1956–1960	262	2.4	0.46	92.0
1961–1965	264	2.3	0.53	82.4
1966	49	2.1	0.51	100.0
1967	49	2.9	0.56	99.9
1968	50	2.2	0.52	83.3
1969	60	2.6	0.56	69.2
1970	72	3.1	0.99	75.0
1971	68	2.9	0.88	70.0

Deaths due to Diseases of the Heart and Blood Vessels

(including Mortality Rates for Coronary Disease from 1950 onwards)

Year	Total Deaths	Rate per 1,000 population	Coronary Disease	
			Rate per 1,000 population	Male % of Deaths
1927–1935	440	4.0	—	—
1936–1945	1,008	5.4	—	—
1946–1949	475	5.9	—	—
1950–1955	791	6.5	1.2	64.1
1956–1960	684	6.5	1.8	63.1
1961–1965	745	6.5	2.4	56.6
1966	142	6.1	2.3	62.9
1967	141	6.1	1.7	58.7
1968	148	6.4	2.6	62.3
1969	189	8.3	3.7	57.1
1970	138	6.0	2.5	57.0
1971	147	6.4	2.9	63.7

Infant Mortality

There were three deaths of infants under 1 year of age. The infant mortality rate was 10.0 per 1,000 live births compared with 18.0 for England and Wales. Two of the deaths occurred within one week of birth.

Causes of Death	1971	1970
Birth Injury	—	1
Congenital	—	3
Heart Failure	3	1
	—	—
	3	5

COMPARATIVE BIRTH, DEATH, AND INFANT MORTALITY RATES, 1881-1971
(Decennial Averages, 1881-1960. Annual, 1961-1971)

Year	Birth Rate per 1,000 Population		Death Rate per 1,000 Population		Mortality Rate of Children under 1 year of age, per 1,000 live births	
	England and Wales	Dorking Urban District (Standardised)	England and Wales	Dorking Urban District (Standardised)	England and Wales	Dorking Urban District
1881 - 1890	32.4	26.8	19.1	14.9	142	82.5
1891 - 1900	29.9	22.1	18.2	14.4	153	92.5
1901 - 1910	27.2	21.6	15.4	14.2	128	86.5
1911 - 1920	21.8	16.5	14.3	13.2	100	70.5
1921 - 1930	18.3	16.5	12.1	13.2	72	49.0
1931 - 1940	14.9	14.4	12.2	12.2	58.7	31.0
1941 - 1950	16.9	16.8	12.3	12.7	43.1	19.2
1951 - 1960	15.8	13.7	11.6	12.3	24.8	23.1
1961	17.4	17.0	12.0	11.3	21.6	29.4 (11)†
1962	18.0	17.1	11.9	12.3	21.6	15.9 (6)
1963	18.2	15.6	12.2	10.5	21.1	11.0 (4)
1964	18.4	16.6	11.3	10.2	19.9	20.3 (8)
1965	18.1	17.4	11.5	10.6	19.0	14.9 (6)
1966	17.7	14.9	11.7	9.6	18.9	14.0 (5)
1967	17.2	15.4	11.2	8.9	18.3	14.0 (5)
1968	16.9	13.6	11.9	11.1	18.3	12.0 (4)
1969	16.3	13.3	11.9	12.4	18.0	19.0 (6)
1970	16.0	11.8	11.7	11.8	18.2	18.0 (5)
1971	16.0	12.5	11.6	12.4	18.0	10.0 (3)

† Bracketed figures represent number of deaths

CAUSES OF DEATH IN THE DORKING URBAN DISTRICT

	<i>Sex</i>	<i>Total all ages</i>	<i>4 wks. -4 wks.</i>	<i>-1 yr.</i>	<i>1- 4</i>	<i>5- 14</i>	<i>15- 24</i>	<i>25- 34</i>	<i>35- 44</i>	<i>45- 54</i>	<i>55- 64</i>	<i>65- 74</i>	<i>75 & over</i>
Late Effects of Respiratory T.B.	M	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—
	F	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Other Infective and Parasitic Diseases	M	1	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
	F	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Malignant Neoplasm, Oesophagus	M	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
	F	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Malignant Neoplasm, Stomach	M	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	—
	F	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	1	—
Malignant Neoplasm, Intestine	M	4	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	1	1	—
	F	6	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	1	—	4
Malignant Neoplasm, Larynx	M	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
	F	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
Malignant Neoplasm, Lung, Bronchus	M	14	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	3	9	2
	F	6	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	2	2
Malignant Neoplasm, Breast	M	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
	F	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	1	—
Malignant Neoplasm, Uterus	F	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	1	—
Malignant Neoplasm, Prostate	M	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	—
Leukaemia	M	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—
	F	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Other Malignant Neoplasms	M	8	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	3	2	2
	F	16	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	4	6	5
Diabetes Mellitus	M	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—
	F	4	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	3
Anaemias	M	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
	F	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
Multiple Sclerosis	M	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	1	—
	F	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Other Diseases of Nervous System	M	2	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	1	—
	F	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Chronic Rheumatic Heart Disease	M	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
	F	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
Hypertensive Disease	M	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—
	F	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2
Ischaemic Heart Disease	M	44	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	16	10	17
	F	25	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	7	18
Other forms of Heart Disease	M	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	2
	F	13	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	11
Cerebrovascular Disease	M	13	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	2	9
	F	32	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	2	6	23
Other Diseases of Circulatory System	M	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	2
	F	10	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	9
Pneumonia	M	11	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	1	7
	F	11	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	10
Bronchitis and Emphysema	M	11	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	4	—	7
	F	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	—
Asthma	M	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
	F	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—
Other Diseases of Respiratory System	M	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
	F	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Peptic Ulcer	M	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
	F	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2

	<i>Sex</i>	<i>Total all ages</i>	<i>-4 wks.</i>	<i>4 wks. -1 yr.</i>	<i>1- 4</i>	<i>5- 14</i>	<i>15- 24</i>	<i>25- 34</i>	<i>35- 44</i>	<i>45- 54</i>	<i>55- 64</i>	<i>65- 74</i>	<i>75 & over</i>
Other Diseases of Digestive System	M	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—
	F	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Nephritis and Nephrosis	M	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—
	F	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1
Hyperplasia of Prostate	M	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
Other Diseases, Genito-Urinary System	M	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
	F	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2
Congenital Anomalies	M	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
	F	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—
Birth Injury, Difficult Labour, Etc.	M	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
	F	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Motor Vehicle Accidents	M	2	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	1	—	—
	F	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
All other Accidents	M	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
	F	1	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Suicide and Self-Inflicted Injuries	M	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—
	F	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
TOTAL—ALL Causes		M 135	2	1	—	1	—	1	2	5	33	37	53
		F 146	—	—	1	—	—	—	1	5	15	29	95

Deaths from Vehicular Accidents

Two residents died as a result of injuries received in vehicular accidents.

<i>Age groups</i>	<i>1971</i>	<i>1970</i>
15–24 years	—	1
25–34 years	1	—
55–64 years	1	1
65 years and over	—	3
	—	—
	2	5

Other Accidental Deaths

One child died as a result of encephalitis following measles vaccine.

<i>Age groups</i>	<i>1971</i>	<i>1970</i>
1–4 years	1	—
30–44 years	—	2
75 years and over	—	1
	—	—
	1	3

Suicide

One death in a male was due to hanging.

<i>Age groups</i>	<i>1971</i>	<i>1970</i>
45–54 years	1	—
55–64 years	—	1
	—	—
	1	1

Maternal Mortality

There was again no death due to maternal causes during 1971.

2. GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES
FOR THE AREA

HOSPITAL FACILITIES

The Dorking General Hospital maintains approximately 218 beds for medical, surgical, geriatric and maternity cases.

Patients requiring hospital treatment for infectious diseases may be admitted to one of a number of hospitals, none of which is situated in the district.

LABORATORY FACILITIES

A laboratory service is available to medical practitioners at the local hospital. Examinations of specimens in connection with the diagnosis and treatment of infectious diseases can be referred to the Public Health Laboratory of the Medical Research Council located at West Park Hospital, Epsom. The staff of this laboratory also examine and report on the bacteriological condition of samples of milk, food and water taken by the Public Health Department.

The bacteriological examination of the following specimens was carried out by the Public Health and Hospital Laboratory Services.

<i>Description</i>	<i>No. of Specimens</i>	<i>Positive Results</i>
Faeces	369	56

From the historical point of view it should be noted that in 1941 the Public Health Department dealt with 119 bacteriological specimens which included 45 for the diagnosis of diphtheria, 12 for tuberculosis, 45 for enteric fever, and 17 for haemolytic streptococci, compared with 369 specimens taken for gastro-intestinal infections, including dysentery and food poisoning in 1971.

I wish to thank Drs. Gamble and Mackie, Directors of the Laboratories, and their staff for their advice and help during the year.

AMBULANCE SERVICE

The Ambulance Service is the function of the Surrey County Council. The Ambulance Control for the area is at Banstead (Burgh Heath 53491), with a sub-station at Harrowlands, South Terrace, Dorking.

MORTUARY FACILITIES

During the year 19 bodies were accepted by the Epsom District Hospital mortuary for coroner's postmortems.

DISPOSAL OF THE DEAD

Cremation

There is a crematorium at Randalls Park, Leatherhead, which is used by many residents of the Dorking Urban District as a means of disposal of the dead.

PERSONAL HEALTH SERVICES

Care of Mothers, Young Children, etc.

The provision of services relating to the care of mothers, young children, domiciliary midwifery and nursing, health visiting, immunisation and vaccination, cervical cytology, chiropody, geriatric clinics, and home helps, is the responsibility of the Surrey County Council, as local health authority, and day-to-day administration is carried on by the South Eastern Divisional Health Sub-Committee with offices at Grayswood, 1 Castlefield Road, Reigate, under the direction of Dr. J. B. Morwood, Divisional Medical Officer.

LOCATION AND TIME-TABLE OF CLINICS

Ante-Natal

Dorking General Hospital. Monday, 9.30 a.m.
Epsom District Hospital. Monday and Thursday, 2 p.m.
Leatherhead, The Mansion. 1st and 3rd Mondays, 9.30 a.m.

Maternity and Child Welfare

Boxhill, Village Hall. 2nd and 4th Mondays, 2 p.m.
Brockham, The Old Forge. 1st and 3rd Fridays, 2 p.m.
Dorking, S.C.C. Clinic, Dene Street. Monday and Wednesday, 2–4 p.m.
Headley, Village Hall. 2nd and 4th Mondays, 2 p.m.
Leatherhead, The Mansion. Friday, 2 p.m.
Westcott, Reading Room. 2nd and 4th Mondays, 2 p.m.

General Medical

Dorking, S.C.C. Clinic, Dene Street. 1st, 3rd and 5th Mondays, 9.30 a.m.
Leatherhead, The Mansion. Monday, 9.30 a.m.

Health Centre for the Elderly

Dorking, S.C.C. Clinic, Dene Street. Tuesday, 2 p.m.

Chest

Dorking General Hospital. Friday, 10 a.m.

Chiropody

Dorking, S.C.C. Clinic, Dene Street. *By appointment.*

Dental

Dorking, S.C.C. Clinic, Dene Street. *By appointment*

Eye

Dorking, S.C.C. Clinic, Dene Street. *By appointment*

Remedial Exercises

Dorking, S.C.C. Clinic, Dene Street. *By appointment*

Speech

Dorking, S.C.C. Clinic, Dene Street. *By appointment*

Family Planning Association

Dorking General Hospital. Tuesday, 6–7.30 p.m.
Wednesday, 9.30 a.m.–12 noon } *By appointment*

Venereal Diseases

Redhill General Hospital. Males: Monday, 5–7 p.m.
Guildford Royal Surrey County Hospital. Males: Tuesday and Friday, 5–7 p.m.
Females: Monday, 3–7 p.m.; Thursday,
9.30–11 a.m.

(*And at the Out-Patient Dept. of many London Hospitals*)

HEALTH EDUCATION

In collaboration with the County Health Services, arrangements were made during the year for the display of posters on Council notice-boards, in libraries, and other suitable locations in Council premises.

Public Health Inspectors continued to carry out individual health education with respect to food handlers.

VOLUNTARY SERVICES

These include:—

Citizens' Advice Bureau

The Bureau is at 231 High Street (Dorking 81907) and is open on Monday to Friday from 10.30 a.m. to 3.30 p.m. and Saturday from 10 a.m. to 12 noon.

I wish to thank Mr. E. C. Thwaites, the Honorary Organiser, for making the following report:

'*Enquiries.* The number of enquiries increased from 1,006 in 1970 to 1,762 in 1971. This is the highest number of enquiries so far recorded. There were

258 cases dealt with in the Family and Personal category. There were 440 calls under the heading of Housing, Property and Land. There were 128 enquiries concerned with Employment and Travel, and communications accounted for 54 calls. Sixty-eight Pensioners brought in their Income Tax problems to the Bureau, and we are fortunate in having a specialist in this field among the Bureau helpers.'

The above report proves the increasing need of this service in helping people to meet their problems.

Family Planning Association

The Family Planning Association provides a clinic twice weekly at the Dorking General Hospital with the consent of the Hospital Management Committee. The medical staff is appointed by the Association and is assisted by nurses and by voluntary workers. The work of the Association is concerned with advice on methods of contraception, with the investigation of cases of sub-fertility, and with the solution of marital problems.

I am grateful to the Chairman, Mrs. J. N. Moore, for the following information:—

No. of visits to the Clinic in 1971	1,387
No. of first visits made	167

I.U.D. Clinics are held every first and third Wednesday in the month.

I greatly appreciate the magnificent work the Clinic is carrying out in the Dorking area.

The Samaritans

The Samaritans have a branch office at Woodbridge Road, Guildford. The emergency telephone number is Guildford 2345. There are also branches at 5 St. Mary's Road, Reigate (telephone number 48444), and at 45 Lower Fairfield Road, Leatherhead (telephone number 5555). Experience has shown that if a person with a suicidal intent can find a suitable listener to his story the impulse may pass and time provided for consideration of alternative solutions to the problem. During the year the Guildford Branch (which includes the Dorking area) received 798 calls for help, demonstrating the real need for such a service, especially as such calls have increased by 72 over those for 1970.

NATIONAL ASSISTANCE ACTS, 1948 and 1951

Section 31—'Meals on Wheels'

The number of meals served in 1971 was 7,358, an increase of 2,215 from the previous year. The subsidy paid by Dorking Urban District Council is 6½p. The estimate for the year ending 31st March, 1972, is £665.

Section 47

This section of the 1948 Act gives power to local authorities to take steps to deal with persons suffering from chronic illness or infirmity who, for one reason or another, are not receiving proper care and attention, and are unable to manage for themselves in their own homes.

Under the 1948 Act, power was given to a Local Authority to apply to the Magistrates' Court for an Order to obtain the removal, for a period not exceeding three months, of any person found to be in such conditions. An Amending Act, which came into force in 1951, enables authorities to adopt a more expeditious procedure in cases requiring urgent attention.

It has not been necessary to use these powers during the year. The elderly couple referred to in the last report have been rehabilitated at home and have responded extremely well due mainly to the kindness of a neighbour who undertook to fill the obvious need for a daily Home Help. The unsung devotion of the W.R.V.S. also plays a major part in the continuing happiness and well-being of this old couple.

Section 50

This section empowers local authorities to arrange for the disposal of the body of any person who dies in the District where such arrangements are not otherwise being made. Use of this section of the Act was not required during the year.

3. SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA

WATER

The whole of the area is provided with water from the East Surrey Water Company’s mains, and the supply again proved to be adequate, pure and wholesome. All houses in the district are provided with an internal piped water supply.

Mickleham, Box Hill, and Brockham receive supplies derived from borings into the chalk at Purley, Kenley, and Leatherhead. The water supplying the remainder of the district is obtained from artesian wells situated at the Water Works in Station Road, Dorking, some of it from the Lower Greensand, and the rest from a bore into the Hythe beds. Reports on 24 samples taken by the Water Company of their supplies were all satisfactory.

In addition to the control sampling of the East Surrey Water Company, the system of weekly sampling in rotation by the various local authorities of the districts served by the Company has continued and proved satisfactory.

Typical results of chemical examination of treated water are as follows. Chemical results in parts per million.

	<i>Leatherhead Pumping Station</i>			<i>Dorking Pumping Station</i>		
Appearance	Bright, with a few minute chalk par- ticles			Clear and Bright		
Colour	Nil			Nil		
Turbidity	Less than 2			Nil		
Taste	Nil			Nil		
Odour	Nil			Nil		
pH	8·3			7·8		
Free Carbon Dioxide ..	Nil			3		
Electric Conductivity at 20°C.	255			370		
Total Solids	170			245		
Chlorides as Cl.	21			25		
Alkalinity as						
Calcium Carbonate	59			101		
Hardness: Total	102			163		
Carbonate	59			101		
Non-Carbonate ..	43			62		
Nitrate Nitrogen	6·2			7·8		
Nitrite Nitrogen	0·002			Nil		
Ammoniacal Nitrogen ..	0·050			0·033		
Permanganate Value						
(4 hrs. at 27°C.)	Nil			Nil		
Albuminoid Nitrogen ..	Nil			Nil		
Residual Chlorine	0·16			0·16		
Metals: Iron	Nil			Nil		
Copper	Nil			Nil		
Lead	Nil			Nil		
Zinc	Nil			Nil		
Other metals	Nil			Nil		
Natural Fluoride	Trace			Trace		

7,300 houses in the district are provided with a piped water supply delivered internally over a sink.

PUBLIC CLEANSING

The national trend of increasing volume and weight of refuse to be disposed of continued throughout the year, the total of household refuse being 204 tons (2.8%) up on 1970 which itself showed a similar increase. The Council continued to receive refuse from that part of the Dorking & Horley Rural District Council's area which is within reasonable distance of our controlled tip.

The facility for collection and disposal of trade refuse continues to provide a very necessary service but there was a reduction during the year of 341 tons (20%) of such refuse taken to the tip by traders or contractors.

Figures provided by the Engineer & Surveyor show a total amount of refuse deposited on the tip under controlled conditions to be as follows:—

	<i>Tons</i>	<i>Cwts.</i>	<i>Qrs.</i>
Trade Refuse	1,382	6	2
Household Refuse	5,606	15	1
Excess Household Refuse	252	6	0
Dorking & Horley Refuse	1,591	6	1
Total Refuse deposited for year	8,832	14	0

There were no complaints arising from the use of the tip.

Private Tips

There were four tips in operation during the year with Consents issued under the Surrey County Council Act, 1931. Control by this Council in the operation of these tips is exercised by frequent inspections and at no time was any contravention of the Consents noted.

One tip, which is permitted to receive limited Class II materials including non-toxic industrial sludges, caught fire during July and although dramatic in appearance it was limited to one corner of the site and the only real damage that occurred related to air pollution. The Consent has been amended to restrict any further accumulations of inflammable wastes.

One of the four tips concerned a temporary consent to allow the filling of a 'village tip' at Mickleham where indiscriminate tipping was giving rise to local nuisance. This has since been filled and finished.

The refilling of excavated areas with industrial waste not only returns the landscape to its previous contours but also makes a major contribution towards the prevention of environmental pollution by accepting such wastes under controlled conditions, the disposal of which makes increasing demands on natural resources. There has been a marked increase in recent years of the use of large capacity containers for the collection of trade waste, operated by private contractors, the bulk of which is disposed of in private tips.

Civic Amenities Act, 1967

Facilities for the ratepayer to dispose of unwanted household items, including cars, have been extended as envisaged under this Act. In addition to the removal on request of items of household refuse not possible to include in the normal weekly collection, the householder can deposit any type of waste at the Council tip in Ranmore Road during normal working hours by first obtaining a free permit from the Depot in Station Road. Alternatively, the Depot is open on Saturday mornings for the same purpose; this service is very popular with D.I.Y. enthusiasts.

Unwanted motor cars of ratepayers can be deposited by their owners at the Depot during normal hours of the working week or on Saturday morning *free of charge*; 67 cars were disposed of in this manner during the year. On written request and the payment of £4 the Council will arrange for the collection of unwanted cars and 24 such requests were made; this is four times the number dealt with in 1970 and is a most encouraging trend.

Abandoned vehicles invariably present problems and 24 had to be dealt with. In no instance were legal proceedings taken but it was evident that many of the vehicles abandoned in the more rural parts of our District originated from outside the area. It may be that not all local authorities have the same enlightened approach to Civic Amenities as has Dorking.

DRAINAGE AND SEWERAGE

Although much of the Urban District is rural the major part is sewered and there are no areas of habitation in need of main drainage.

The Pixham Lane Outfall Works produced generally satisfactory results during the year but this has been maintained only with difficulty. Consultants have been appointed to advise on the nature and extent of extensions necessary at this outfall works to provide for future requirements and their proposals have received Department of the Environment approval.

The Brockham Sewage Works continued to produce a satisfactory effluent.

The above information has been supplied by J. N. Moore, Esq., Engineer & Surveyor to the Council, for which I am most grateful.

CARAVAN SITES AND MOVEABLE DWELLINGS

The Chief Public Health Inspector has included in his report a summary of licensed caravan sites in the area together with details of the steps being taken to improve the environmental conditions on the sites.

The problem of residential occupation of caravans, particularly where families with young children are involved, continues to give concern for their well-being. Whilst the introduction of the self-contained 'mobile home' built to British Standard Specification overcomes some of the environmental problems associated with the older type caravan, most parents would agree that limited 'living space' and young children are irreconcilable.

SWIMMING POOLS

The Public Health Inspectors made 32 visits to swimming pools and took eight samples of water of which one was unsatisfactory. The Department is equipped to take pool-side readings of residual chlorine and pH value, therefore the number of samples taken for bacteriological examination can be safely reduced.

Pool 1. Privately owned pool but leased to this Council for the first time last year; open to the public during the summer months. Although fitted with automatic filtration, circulation and chlorination plant the equipment is old and its satisfactory operation is only maintained with difficulty. Samples taken, 3; Satisfactory, 3.

Pool 2. Privately owned and open to the public. Fitted with automatic filtration, circulation and chlorination plant; also heated. Samples taken, 3; Satisfactory, 2. The unsatisfactory sample was taken following a period when chlorine content was not maintained due to lack of supplies. This was rectified within a very short time and was during a period when the bathing load was negligible.

- Pool 3.** A small pool for learners, capacity 15,000 gallons, at a County Primary School. Has a circulation and filtration plant, with provision for drip-feed chlorination. Samples taken, 1; Satisfactory, 1.
- Pool 4.** This is a pool of 48,000 gallons capacity at a County Secondary School. It is equipped with semi-automatic circulation, filtration and chlorination plant. Samples taken, 1; Satisfactory, 1.
- Pool 5.** A small pool at a private school where checks are made by arrangement with the Principal. No bacteriological samples taken.

AIR POLLUTION

I have nothing further to add to the Chief Public Health Inspector's report on this subject.

RAG FLOCK AND OTHER FILLING MATERIALS ACT, 1951

The number of premises registered under the above Act is two, no fresh applications having been received during the year.

COMMON LODGING HOUSES

There are no common lodging houses registered within the district.

SCHOOLS

As in previous years there were several occasions on which the Public Health Department's services were required to deal with minor rodent infestations in schools and school canteens.

The Public Health Inspectors, in carrying out their duties under the Food Hygiene Regulations, inspect school canteens as a matter of routine and, in addition, their services are available to examine and advise on foods delivered there in the case of doubt as to condition.

INSPECTION OF FACTORIES

1. Inspections for purposes of provisions as to health including inspections made by the Public Health Inspectors.

<i>Premises</i> (1)	<i>Number on Register</i> (2)	<i>Number of Inspections</i> (3)	<i>Written Notices</i> (4)	<i>Occupiers Prosecuted</i> (5)
(i) Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4, and 6 are to be enforced by local authority	—	—	—	—
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by local authority	98	5	—	—
(iii) Other premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the local authority (excluding out-workers premises)	1	1	—	—

2. Cases in which defects were found

<i>Particulars</i>		NUMBER OF CASES IN WHICH DEFECTS WERE FOUND				<i>No. of cases in which prose- cutions were instituted</i>
		<i>Found</i>	<i>Remedied</i>	REFERRED		
				<i>to H.M. Inspector</i>	<i>by H.M. Inspector</i>	
(1)		(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)
Want of cleanliness	S.1	—	—	—	—	—
Overcrowding	S.2	—	—	—	—	—
Unreasonable temperature	S.3	—	—	—	—	—
Inadequate Ventilation	S.4	—	—	—	—	—
Ineffective drainage of floor	S.6	—	—	—	—	—
Sanitary Conveniences	S.7					
(a) Insufficient		—	—	—	—	—
(b) Unsuitable or defective		—	—	—	—	—
(c) Not separate for sexes		—	—	—	—	—
Other offences against the Act (not including offences relating to outwork)		—	—	—	—	—
TOTAL		—	—	—	—	—

3. Outwork (Sections 133 and 134)

<i>Nature of Work</i>	SECTION 133		<i>No. of prosecutions for failing to supply lists</i>	SECTION 134		<i>Prosecution</i>
	<i>No. of outworkers in Aug. list required by Section 133 (1) (c)</i>	<i>No. of cases of defaults in sending list to the Council</i>		<i>No. of instances of work in unwholesome premises</i>	<i>Notices served</i>	
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)
Wearing apparel (making, etc., cleaning and washing)	—	—	—	—	—	—
TOTAL	—	—	—	—	—	—

4. Factories on the register are classified as follows

Antique Furniture Restorers	.	1
Agricultural Engineers	. .	2
Bacon Curing	. . .	1
Bookbinding	. . .	1
Boot Repairs	. . .	1
Brickmaking	. . .	1
Builders, Engineering and Joinery		3
Cinematograph Operators	. .	1
Cleaning and Pressing	. .	4
Coach Building	. . .	1
Dentists	. . .	3

Engineering (General)	.	.	22
Flour Mills	.	.	1
Laundries	.	.	2
Motor Vehicle Repairs	.	.	20
Printing	.	.	6
Electrical Maintenance & Repair	.	.	6
Sausage Manufacturers	.	.	3
Screen Printing	.	.	1
Slaughterhouses	.	.	1
Sterilisation of Equipment	.	.	1
Tailoring	.	.	2
Tent Making	.	.	1
Timber Merchants	.	.	1
Typewriter Repairs	.	.	2
Tyre Maintenance	.	.	1
Upholsterers, etc.	.	.	4
Watch and Clock Repairs	.	.	1
Wine Bottling	.	.	1
Woodwork	.	.	5

SANITARY INSPECTION OF THE DISTRICT

Full details of premises visited, defects or nuisances discovered, and the action taken under the appropriate legal provisions will be found in the report of the Chief Public Health Inspector, with the results obtained.

4. HOUSING

There were no new dwellings completed by the Council during 1971.

5. INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD

ADULTERATION OF FOOD

The Surrey County Council continues to administer the sections of the Food and Drugs Act, 1955, dealing with food standards and labelling. I am indebted to the County Medical Officer for the information that a total of 86 samples for analysis were taken in this district, eight of which were adulterated or irregular. These included 24 samples of milk, three of which were unsatisfactory, the remainder consisting of miscellaneous articles of foodstuffs and drugs. The information was also given that within the area of the county in which the County Council acts as Food and Drugs authority a total of 810 samples were taken for analysis, including 274 of milk. Forty-three were found to be below standard, 10 of these being of milk.

MEAT AND OTHER FOODS AND FOOD HYGIENE

The results of inspections of food premises, action taken, and progress achieved are dealt with in the Chief Public Health Inspector's Report.

6. PREVALENCE OF AND CONTROL OVER INFECTIOUS DISEASES

The table below shows the notification rate of infectious diseases. Incidence rates are estimated per 1,000 population. The figures for 1970 and 1941 are reproduced for purposes of comparison.

Notifications (corrected)				1971	1970	1941
Anthrax	..	..	..	—	—	*
Diphtheria	..	..	..	—	—	0·14
Dysentery	..	..	..	—	0·13	*
Encephalitis	..	..	..	—	—	*
Food Poisoning	..	..		0·35	0·09	—
Infective Jaundice	..	..		0·44	0·04	*
Measles	..	..	..	1·45	7·27	4·34
Meningitis	..	..	..	—	—	*
Paratyphoid	..	..	..	—	—	0·14
Poliomyelitis		..	..	—	—	0·04
Scarlet Fever		..	..	0·04	—	0·65
Smallpox	..	..	..	—	—	—
Tetanus	..	..	..	—	—	*
Tuberculosis, Respiratory				0·04	0·09	1·07
Non-Respiratory				—	0·04	0·42
Typhoid Fever	..	..		—	—	0·09
Whooping Cough	..	..		—	0·04	4·34

** Disease not notifiable in 1941*

DIPHTHERIA

There have been no cases of diphtheria since 1947. As a matter of interest it is noted that three cases occurred in 1941.

DYSENTERY

There were no cases of Sonne Dysentery notified during the year. Three cases were notified in the previous year.

FOOD POISONING

Eight sporadic cases of food poisoning were notified during the year, six of these occurring in a small outbreak in a local hospital. Two cases were notified in 1970.

INFECTIVE JAUNDICE

Ten cases of jaundice were notified during the year, nine occurring in Dorking, compared with one in the previous year.

MEASLES

Thirty-three cases of measles were notified during 1970, which should not have been an epidemic year, compared with 167 in 1970.

NOTIFICATION OF INFECTIOUS DISEASE BY AGE AND SEX DURING 1971

[illegible]

2. Cases in which defects were found

<i>Particulars</i>		NUMBER OF CASES IN WHICH DEFECTS WERE FOUND				<i>No. of cases in which prose- cutions were instituted</i>
		<i>Found</i>	<i>Remedied</i>	REFERRED		
				<i>to H.M. Inspector</i>	<i>by H.M. Inspector</i>	
(1)		(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)
Want of cleanliness	S.1	—	—	—	—	—
Overcrowding	S.2	—	—	—	—	—
Unreasonable temperature	S.3	—	—	—	—	—
Inadequate Ventilation	S.4	—	—	—	—	—
Ineffective drainage of floor	S.6	—	—	—	—	—
Sanitary Conveniences	S.7					
(a) Insufficient		—	—	—	—	—
(b) Unsuitable or defective		—	—	—	—	—
(c) Not separate for sexes		—	—	—	—	—
Other offences against the Act (not including offences relating to outwork)		—	—	—	—	—
TOTAL		—	—	—	—	—

3. Outwork (Sections 133 and 134)

<i>Nature of Work</i>	SECTION 133		<i>No. of prosecutions for failing to supply lists</i>	SECTION 134		<i>Prosecution</i>
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	(1) (c)					
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)
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TOTAL	—	—	—	—	—	—

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Builders, Engineering and Joinery		3
Cinematograph Operators	. .	1
Cleaning and Pressing	. .	4
Coach Building	. . .	1
Dentists	. . .	3

Engineering (General)	.	.	22
Flour Mills	.	.	1
Laundries	.	.	2
Motor Vehicle Repairs	.	.	20
Printing	.	.	6
Electrical Maintenance & Repair	.	.	6
Sausage Manufacturers	.	.	3
Screen Printing	.	.	1
Slaughterhouses	.	.	1
Sterilisation of Equipment	.	.	1
Tailoring	.	.	2
Tent Making	.	.	1
Timber Merchants	.	.	1
Typewriter Repairs	.	.	2
Tyre Maintenance	.	.	1
Upholsterers, etc.	.	.	4
Watch and Clock Repairs	.	.	1
Wine Bottling	.	.	1
Woodwork	.	.	5

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Meningitis	—	—	*
Paratyphoid	—	—	0·14
Poliomyelitis		—	—	0·04
Scarlet Fever		0·04	—	0·65
Smallpox	—	—	—
Tetanus	—	—	*
Tuberculosis, Respiratory				0·04	0·09	1·07
Non-Respiratory				—	0·04	0·42
Typhoid Fever		—	—	0·09
Whooping Cough		—	0·04	4·34

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NOTIFICATION OF INFECTIOUS DISEASE BY AGE AND SEX DURING 1971

[illegible]

SCARLET FEVER

One case of scarlet fever was notified during the year, compared with one case in 1970. In 1941 14 cases were notified and 13 were admitted to hospital. The latter action emphasises the serious nature of the disease at that time.

WHOOPING COUGH

No case of whooping cough was notified during 1971. One case was notified in the previous year.

TUBERCULOSIS

Notification of Tuberculosis

One notification of pulmonary tuberculosis was received. The table below gives a comparison of tuberculosis incidence and mortality rates since 1934.

Tuberculosis Incidence and Mortality Rates, 1934–71

(Quinquennial Averages 1934–68)

<i>Year</i>	<i>Primary Notifications</i>	<i>Notification Rate per 1,000 Population</i>	<i>Deaths</i>	<i>Death Rate per 1,000 Population</i>
1934–1938	12	0.73	6	0.41
1939–1943	16	0.83	6	0.33
1944–1948	16	0.85	8	0.43
1949–1953	15	0.77	5	0.27
1954–1958	11	0.58	1	0.07
1959–1963	5	0.27	1	0.03
1964–1968	4	0.16	0.6	0.02
1969	1	0.04	—	—
1970	3	0.13	—	—
1971	1	0.04	—	—

Deaths from Tuberculosis

There was no death attributed to tuberculosis during the year. The trend, which the mortality figures for tuberculosis have assumed in recent years, can be regarded with satisfaction and as evidence of the increasing effectiveness of the curative and preventive measures taken against the disease.

Register of Notified Persons

During the year the name of one person was added to the tuberculosis register and two were removed. Details of these alterations are as follows:—

<i>Additions to Register</i>		<i>Removals from Register</i>	
Primary notifications relating to persons already residing in this district	1	By transfers to other districts	—
		By recovery	2
Transfer of persons notified in other districts now residing in this area	—	By death	—
	—		—
	1		2

At the end of the year the number of names remaining on the register was 42 in comparison with 43 for the previous year. The figures since 1960 are given below for comparison.

31.12.60	98	31.12.66	59
31.12.61	92	31.12.67	57
31.12.62	95	31.12.68	49
31.12.63	87	31.12.69	42
31.12.64	70	31.12.70	43
31.12.65	59		

Mass Radiography

During the year 767 persons were examined.

Dorking and District Tuberculosis After-Care Committee

The voluntary Tuberculosis After-Care Committee works in close association with the Dorking Chest Clinic. The Committee co-operates with various voluntary Associations and Societies interested in social welfare and with statutory officers engaged in health and welfare. The Committee is in a good position to meet the special problems of the tuberculous person and the household to which he belongs.

**VACCINATION AND IMMUNIZATION AGAINST
INFECTIOUS DISEASES**

Immunization against diphtheria, whooping cough, tetanus, and measles, and smallpox vaccination can be obtained from medical practitioners under the terms of the National Health Service Act, or on application at Surrey County Council clinics.

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URBAN DISTRICT OF DORKING
ANNUAL REPORT OF THE
CHIEF PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR
FOR THE YEAR 1971

COUNCIL OFFICES,
PIPPBROOK,
DORKING.

To the Chairman and Members of the
Dorking Urban District Council.

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With so many 'theme campaigns' being introduced on a weekly, monthly, or annual basis (Christian Aid ranks only one week!) it would not have been too surprising if European Conservation Year—1970 had not managed to last out its full 52 weeks; as it is, the issues raised and highlighted have continued to gain momentum which can only be to the ultimate benefit of the living world. Photochemical air pollution, that unique phenomenon of Los Angeles now agreed as not so unique, has been detected elsewhere in the world and reminds us that we must remain on our guard and try to learn by the experience of others.

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It will be seen from the statistical content and narratives of the various sections of the report that steady progress has been made in most aspects of the work undertaken by the Department. The revision of caravan site licences to bring them more in line with current and potential developments in caravaning practice continued in accordance with prescribed procedure and Council policy. Because the proposed alterations take into account the larger 'mobile homes' now in use and, as such, vary from the Model Conditions which were appropriate in 1960, national organisations and federations have taken an active interest in our proposals and are tending to regard the action as a national test case. The need to be legally correct at all stages and to establish a sound and justified case for this action in the event of appeals is very time consuming.

The formulation of long-term housing policies to integrate the various facets of local authority responsibility for housing in the private sector has continued, the intention being to be able to give authoritative answers relating to the future of a dwelling or groups of dwellings within the District and to encourage their

improvement and repair as appropriate to their future. When the present unfit or sub-standard houses not suitable for improvement are finally dealt with, all subsequent demolitions should be by way of 'urban renewal' programmes rather than for unfitness reasons. The continuing planning uncertainties within the Comprehensive Development Area prevent its inclusion in any such programmes at this stage and represents the very worst aspects of blight.

Food hygiene and safety received an increased share of attention and the appointment in August of an authorised meat inspector helped considerably in this respect. The various divisions of the Food and Drugs section of this report give further information on the work carried out and it will be seen that it was considered necessary to resort to legal proceedings in certain instances. Although much preferring prevention to cure, such action does have a salutary effect. Long-term improvement in hygienic practices must lie in education and although the introduction of local training courses in food hygiene has not been possible this year it is confidently expected in 1972.

Inspections relating to health, welfare and safety in places of employment have not been all that one would wish for but attention has been given to new business premises during the year.

The inability to follow a predetermined programme of work was well demonstrated in May when the bulk of the Department's resources were suddenly committed to the investigation and control of an outbreak of salmonellosis at the local hospital. Although the number of persons affected was fortunately low, our involvement was high.

The team spirit within the Department has not faltered despite excessive demands being made of members and this, to a very large extent, must be related to job satisfaction; I am most grateful to them for giving of their best.

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SCARLET FEVER

One case of scarlet fever was notified during the year, compared with one case in 1970. In 1941 14 cases were notified and 13 were admitted to hospital. The latter action emphasises the serious nature of the disease at that time.

WHOOPING COUGH

No case of whooping cough was notified during 1971. One case was notified in the previous year.

TUBERCULOSIS

Notification of Tuberculosis

One notification of pulmonary tuberculosis was received. The table below gives a comparison of tuberculosis incidence and mortality rates since 1934.

Tuberculosis Incidence and Mortality Rates, 1934-71

(*Quinquennial Averages 1934–68*)

<i>Year</i>	<i>Primary Notifications</i>	<i>Notification Rate per 1,000 Population</i>	<i>Deaths</i>	<i>Death Rate per 1,000 Population</i>
1934-1938	12	0.73	6	0.41
1939-1943	16	0.83	6	0.33
1944-1948	16	0.85	8	0.43
1949-1953	15	0.77	5	0.27
1954-1958	11	0.58	1	0.07
1959-1963	5	0.27	1	0.03
1964-1968	4	0.16	0.6	0.02
1969	1	0.04	—	—
1970	3	0.13	—	—
1971	1	0.04	—	—

Deaths from Tuberculosis

There was no death attributed to tuberculosis during the year. The trend, which the mortality figures for tuberculosis have assumed in recent years, can be regarded with satisfaction and as evidence of the increasing effectiveness of the curative and preventive measures taken against the disease.

Register of Notified Persons

During the year the name of one person was added to the tuberculosis register and two were removed. Details of these alterations are as follows:—

<i>Additions to Register</i>		<i>Removals from Register</i>	
Primary notifications relating to persons already residing in this district	1	By transfers to other districts	—
		By recovery	2
Transfer of persons notified in other districts now residing in this area	—	By death	—
	<hr/> 1		<hr/> 2

At the end of the year the number of names remaining on the register was 42 in comparison with 43 for the previous year. The figures since 1960 are given below for comparison.

31.12.60	98	31.12.66	59
31.12.61	92	31.12.67	57
31.12.62	95	31.12.68	49
31.12.63	87	31.12.69	42
31.12.64	70	31.12.70	43
31.12.65	59		

Mass Radiography

During the year 767 persons were examined.

Dorking and District Tuberculosis After-Care Committee

The voluntary Tuberculosis After-Care Committee works in close association with the Dorking Chest Clinic. The Committee co-operates with various voluntary Associations and Societies interested in social welfare and with statutory officers engaged in health and welfare. The Committee is in a good position to meet the special problems of the tuberculous person and the household to which he belongs.

VACCINATION AND IMMUNIZATION AGAINST INFECTIOUS DISEASES

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HOUSING

Once again, much of the Department's time and resources were devoted to implementing the Committee's policy decisions on housing, based on my report to them in April 1970.

The first housing priority (other than caravan sites which are dealt with under another section) is in respect of such unfit houses as remain in the District which do not lend themselves to comprehensive improvement and repair; work continued towards the identification and clearance of such dwellings.

The impetus given to improvement and conversion by the very liberal provisions of the 1969 Act, whereby wide discretionary powers are given to the local authority, resulted in a new peak for this service being some 30 per cent up on 1970 (the national increase was 26%) and double the pre-1969 figures. Notwithstanding this, there was still money to spare within the approved estimate.

Contrary to expectation, the number of applications for qualification certificates for 'fair rent' did not increase as the qualifying dates, January and July 1971, were reached. The publication of the White Paper 'Fair Deal for Housing', which promised a 'fair rent' scheme for all rented accommodation may have been instrumental in the comparative lack of interest in the qualification certificate procedure for regulating certain controlled tenancies. It was painfully obvious from many of the applications received that the owners had very little knowledge of (or interest in?) the condition of their rented accommodation in that the qualifying conditions were not met.

It was necessary during the year to take statutory action in respect of penal overcrowding in a dwelling. This was resolved by the removal of the third family and lodgers, with the issue of a licence to permit limited overcrowding by the second family being the child and grandchildren of the tenant. Court proceedings were not necessary.

[A] CLEARANCE OF UNFIT HOUSES

All of the ten unfit houses demolished during the year were as a result of 'individual' unfitness action, some as a result of Orders made in previous years. Preliminary steps were taken to deal with other unfit houses by way of clearance area action.

[B] DETAILS OF NOTICES AND ORDERS

	<i>Outstanding 31.12.1970</i>	<i>Served 1971</i>	<i>Complied with 1971</i>	<i>Outstanding 31.12.1971</i>
PRELIMINARY				
Housing Acts				
Disrepair	4	8	4	8
Disrepair (Qualification Certificates)	17	19	9	27
Houses in Multiple Occupation	1	3	2	2
Compulsory Improvements	17	1	10	8
Overcrowding	—	1	—	1
Public Health Acts				
Disrepair	12	9	10	11
Drainage	—	—	—	—
Other	—	2	1	1

	<i>Outstanding 31.12.1970</i>	<i>Served 1971</i>	<i>Complied with 1971</i>	<i>Outstanding 31.12.1971</i>
STATUTORY				
Housing Acts				
Disrepair	2	1	1	2
Demolition Orders	8	7	10	5
Closing Orders	—	1	—	1
Multiple Occupation	—	—	—	—
Compulsory Improvements	2	—	—	2
Overcrowding	—	1	1	—
Public Health Acts				
Disrepair	1	—	—	1*
Drainage	—	1	—	1
Other	—	—	—	—

*Legal proceedings were taken in September for non-compliance with this statutory notice and the maximum fine of five pounds was imposed, the Council were awarded ten pounds costs. Notwithstanding this, the notice remained outstanding at the end of the year and a further summons was issued in December for hearing in January.

Notice was served in respect of one unfit house stating a time and place at which its condition and future use would be considered by the Council.

(C) RESULTS OF ACTION TAKEN UNDER (A) AND (B)

Dwellings made fit or otherwise repaired (excluding (E) below)	30
Houses Demolished	10
Houses or parts of dwellings closed	1
Number of families rehoused by Council as a result	8

(D) HOUSES IN MULTIPLE OCCUPATION

1. Total number of houses in multiple occupation	28
2. Number of houses estimated to need attention under Housing Act 1961	56
3. Number of houses on which notices of intention have been served for	
(a) Management Orders (Section 12)	—
(b) Directions on overcrowding (Section 19)	1
4. Number of houses on which have been made	
(a) Management Orders	—
(b) Directions on overcrowding	1
5. Number of notices served	
(a) To make good neglect of proper standards of management (Section 14)	—
(b) To require additional services or facilities	—
(c) Where work has been carried out in default	—
6. Number of prosecutions since passing of Housing Act, 1961, in respect of	
(a) Management	—
(b) Directions	—
(c) Overcrowding (Section 90 Housing Act 1957)	—
7. Number of control orders made (Housing Act 1964)	—
8. Number of control orders terminated	—

9. Details regarding separate occupancies in houses in multiple occupation:

Number of houses	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
with following number of separate occupancies	3	14	7	2	1	—	—	—	—	1	—

(E) IMPROVEMENT GRANTS

(i) Standard	Owner-Occupiers	Tenanted
1. Number of applications received	21	18
Number of applications approved	15	11
Number of applications refused	1	—
Number of applications withdrawn	—	1
2. Number of dwellings improved	10	5
	£	
3. Amount paid in grants	2,041.55	
4. Average grant per house	136.00	
5. Amenities provided:—		
(a) fixed bath or shower		10
(b) wash hand basin		10
(c) sink		4
(d) hot water supply (to any fittings)		11
(e) water closet within dwelling		13
(ii) Discretionary	Owner-Occupiers	Tenanted
1. Number of applications received	28	24
Number of applications approved	17	17
Number of applications refused	4	2
Number of applications withdrawn	2	1
2. Number of dwellings improved	15	13
	£	
3. Amount paid in grants	13,122.00	
4. Average grant per house	468.00	
(iii) Special		
1. Number of applications received		1
Number of applications approved		1
Number of applications withdrawn		1
2. Number of houses improved		1
	£	
3. Amounts paid in grants	357.00	
4. Amenities provided:—		
(a) fixed bath or shower		1
(b) wash hand basin		5
(c) sink		2
(d) hot water supply (to any fittings)		8
(e) water closet within dwelling		1

(F) QUALIFICATION CERTIFICATES

Improvement cases

1. Number of applications received for qualification certificates under Section 44(2)	19
2. Number of certificates of provisional approval issued	9
3. Number of qualification certificates issued under Section 46(3)	3
4. „ „ „ „ refused	2

Standard amenities already provided

5. Number of applications received for qualification certificates under Section 44(1)	25
6. Number of qualification certificates issued under Section 45(2)	14
7. Number of qualification certificates refused	10

Exemption for low income tenants from Section 54

7. Number of certificates issued under Section 55	—
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(G) CERTIFICATES OF DISREPAIR

Number of applications for revocation	2
Number of certificates cancelled or revoked	2

FOOD AND DRUGS

(A) INSPECTION OF MEAT AND OTHER FOODS

(i) Slaughterhouse

Meat inspection is carried out at one privately-owned slaughterhouse and involves one inspector being present full-time to carry out ante-mortem and post-mortem examinations of the animals in accordance with the Meat Inspection Regulations, this being a statutory duty on the authority and the inspectors; a charge is made for this service.

During the year an authorised meat inspector was appointed as an addition to staff to undertake the bulk of the slaughterhouse duties. The maximum prescribed charges for inspection were increased by about 40 per cent, the first such increase since 1963, and this was implemented by the Council.

The slaughterhouse licence, continued through 1970 on two six-monthly extensions to enable comprehensive improvement of the premises, was again continued during 1971 whilst attempts were made to find a suitable alternative site for the relocation of the slaughterhouse. By the end of the year no real progress had been made either towards the relocation of the business or the improvement of the existing unsatisfactory premises.

The continuing rise in throughput at the slaughterhouse set a new peak for 1971, being 12 per cent up on 1970 and 107 per cent more than the average annual throughput for 1965–67.

Climatic conditions have a marked effect on animal diseases therefore quarterly and annual comparisons are of no great local significance unless there is a marked and sustained variation from the average. The percentages of animals affected with disease at the slaughterhouse are similar to national averages and one is tempted to say, as I did last year, that this is satisfactory, but whilst nearly half the cows, a quarter of other cattle and one in five of pigs are affected by disease (national averages) this really cannot be so. Where the abnormal condition of animals inspected in the slaughterhouse may have been attributable to their rearing, the Animal Health Division of the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food is notified.

Statistical information has been limited to Table 1, the form of which is prescribed and can be related to other areas.

Table 1 Carcasses and Offal inspected and condemned in whole or part

	<i>Cattle, excluding</i>			<i>Sheep and</i>		
	<i>Cows</i>	<i>Cows</i>	<i>Calves</i>	<i>Lambs</i>	<i>Swine</i>	TOTAL
Number killed	4,953	508	191	5,095	9,217	19,964
Number inspected	4,953	508	191	5,095	9,217	19,964
All Diseases except Tuberculosis and Cysticerci						
Whole carcasses condemned	2	12	12	7	49	82
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned	928	184	1	243	1,083	2,439
Percentage of the number inspected affected with disease other than T.B. and Cysticerci	18.8	38.6	6.8	4.9	12.3	
Tuberculosis only						
Whole carcass condemned	—	—	—	—	—	—
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned	—	—	—	—	—	—
Percentage of the number inspected affected with T.B.	—	—	—	—	—	—
Cysticercosis						
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned	14	—	—	—	—	14
Carcasses submitted to treatment by refrigeration	14	—	—	—	—	14
Generalised and totally condemned	—	—	—	—	—	—

Total weight of carcasses and offals condemned was 16 tons 2 cwts. 23 lb.

Poultry Inspection

There are no poultry processing premises within the district, the number of visits recorded in this connection is therefore nil. However, visits have been made to shops within the district in which poultry is displayed for retail sale to ascertain the quality and fitness for human consumption of such poultry.

(ii) Wholesale and Retail

Food may be examined by the Public Health Inspector as to its fitness to eat for any of three reasons (a) as part of routine inspection of food premises; (b) at the request of the wholesaler/retailer; or (c) on receipt of a consumer complaint: the bulk of the food listed in Table 2 arose out of (b). Food complaints are dealt with in more detail below.

Table 2. Unfit Food voluntarily surrendered

	<i>Tins</i>	<i>Packets</i>	WEIGHT			
			<i>cwts.</i>	<i>qrs.</i>	<i>lbs.</i>	<i>ozs.</i>
Cheese			0	0	5	2
Flour			0	0	9	0
Bacon and Ham			3	0	3	4
Canned Ham				1	16	0
Prepared Meat	114	567				
Fish	34	1,053	4	0	25	8
Fruit	382	6				
Vegetables	462	665				
Cereals		7				
Milk	36					
Soup	158					
Preserves	5					
Savouries	181	129				
Cream	29	70				
Fruit Juices and Beverages	30	35				
Puddings	17					
Confectionery	6	1,156				
Ice Cream					15	
TOTAL	1,454	3,688	7	3	23	14

The above 3,688 packets mainly relate to frozen foods rendered unfit by failure of refrigeration plant, being some 40 per cent of the previous year's figure.

(B) FOOD COMPLAINTS

Twenty-three complaints were received in the Department of a wide variety of food sold in the District which was not of the nature, substance or quality demanded or being otherwise unfit (compared with twenty such complaints in 1970) which comprised:—

Foreign Matter (3), being glass in bottled milk; first-aid plaster in prepared meal; cigarette end in bread.

Abnormal colour, taste or flavour (4), being excess of bicarbonate of soda in flour; bitter cream; prepacked pork chops; stale cake.

Mouldy (7), being canned foods (3); cheese cake; prepacked cheese; prepacked apricot tart (i); wrapped and sliced bread (ii).

Insects (5), being fly in marmalade; larvae in drinking chocolate; larvae in canned vegetables; fly-blown prepacked sliced bacon; larvae in prepacked bacon joint (iii).

Dirty Milk Bottles (2), being bottling plant outside of this District.

Miscellaneous (2); being damp sugar; absence of label on bottled fruit drink.

The number and nature of complaints remain comparable with recent years. Eighteen of these were dealt with formally and reported to Committee and warning letters were sent in 15 cases. Legal proceedings were taken in respect of the cases marked (i), (ii), and (iii), resulting in total fines of £42.50 plus £62 costs.

Although Committee give very careful consideration to the severity and circumstances of a complaint before authorising the institution of legal proceed-

ings it would appear, from the amount of fines imposed, that the Bench do not share Committee's concern in these matters. The costs awarded by the Court are usually only a small proportion of the actual costs incurred by the Council, the difference being at the ratepayers' expense.

(C) MILK

(i) Under the Milk (Special Designation) Regulations, 1963/65, milk retailed to the public must be sold under one of the four permissible designations—'Pasteurised', 'Sterilised', 'Untreated', or 'Ultra Heat Treated'. A test is prescribed for each category.

Licences to enable distributors to sell milk of the designations they choose are issued by the Surrey County Council, as Food & Drugs Authority for the district, but the Urban District Council's Public Health Inspectors act as agents of the County Medical Officer for the purposes of inspecting the premises of applicants for licences, and for subsequent routine sampling and inspections at such premises when licences have been issued.

During the year 72 samples were taken and submitted to the Public Health Laboratory at West Park Hospital, Epsom, for the tests prescribed for these categories, the results being as follows:—

Table 3.

Pasteurised Milk					
<i>No. of Samples</i>	METHYLENE BLUE REDUCTASE TEST			PHOSPHATASE TEST	
	<i>Satis.</i>	<i>Void</i>	<i>Unsatis.</i>	<i>Satis.</i>	<i>Unsatis.</i>
18	18	—	—	18	—
Untreated Milk					
<i>No. of Samples</i>	METHYLENE BLUE REDUCTASE TEST			BRUCELLA RING TEST	
	<i>Satis.</i>	<i>Void</i>	<i>Unsatis.</i>	<i>Satis.</i>	<i>Unsatis.</i>
14	9	—	5	12	—
Sterilised Milk					
<i>No. of Samples</i>	TURBIDITY TEST				
	<i>Satis.</i>	<i>Unsatis.</i>			
5	5	—			
Ultra Heat Treated Milk					
<i>No. of Samples</i>	COLONY COUNT TEST				
	<i>Satis.</i>	<i>Unsatis.</i>			
10	10	—			

NOTE:	
<i>Type of Test</i>	<i>Purpose</i>
Methylene Blue Reductase:	To determine its keeping quality
Phosphatase:	To indicate whether heat treatment for pasteurisation was effective
Brucella Ring:	To demonstrate whether organisms of <i>Brucella abortus</i> (undulant fever) are likely to be present—guinea pig inoculation follows if positive
Turbidity:	To indicate whether heat treatment for sterilisation was effective
Colony Count:	To demonstrate whether heat treatment for 'long life' was effective

(ii) *Dairy Farms.* In addition to the above retail samples, the inspectors made 14 visits to farms producing farm-bottle 'Untreated' milk for the purpose of bulk sampling from churns and tanks and 25 such samples were collected. They all passed the Brucella Ring Test but five failed the Methylene Blue Reductase Test in addition to the five shown in Table 3 above; these ten failures were from the same producer, a dairy farmer/retailer within the District.

Hygiene on dairy farms is the responsibility of the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food through a Dairy Husbandry Advisor who has been kept informed of the Council's findings. There is no evidence of positive action being taken by the Ministry to resolve what appears to be a failure in hygienic control at this farm and failures have continued into 1972. In addition to sampling the milk on this farm, batches of washed bottles have been examined bacteriologically with mixed results.

At another dairy farm in the district it was found that although the water supply originated from the Company main it passed through a private 'reservoir' before continuing by a private supply pipe to the farm. This 'reservoir' had become dilapidated over the years and contamination of the supply was occurring. With the active co-operation of the estate owners, the farmer, and the Water Company initial steps were taken to safeguard the supply by sterilisation and a permanent satisfactory supply was subsequently provided.

(iii) *Milk sold under Special Designation.* Dealer's licences under the Milk (Special Designation) Regulations, 1963/65 are issued by the Health Department of the Surrey County Council. These licences are valid for periods of five years and 1971 was the beginning of a new period, therefore all licences had to be reapplied for.

The introduction of 'special designations' was at a time when the incidence of tuberculosis in dairy herds was high but now that this has been eradicated in Great Britain and all milks sold conform to one of the prescribed designations, the need to continue to hold a licence would seem to be outmoded provided that the milk container continues to describe the designation of the milk for testing purposes.

The number and types of licences issued for 1971 are:—

For the sale of Untreated Milk (pre-packed)	8
For the sale of Pasteurised Milk (pre-packed)	20
For the sale of Sterilised Milk (pre-packed)	10
For the sale of Ultra Heat Treated Milk (pre-packed)	14

(iv) *Premises registered under Milk and Dairies Regulations.* In addition to the licence described in (iii) above, premises have to be registered under these Regulations by the District Council. The entries on the register at the end of the year may be summarised as follows:—

Number of Dairies	Nil
Number of Distributors with premises within the Urban District	26

(D) FOOD HYGIENE

(i) The inspection of premises to secure the safe and hygienic preparation, storage and sale of food for human consumption is a basic duty of every local authority's health department but, being mainly of a routine nature with very few traders upset if they are not regularly visited, there is a tendency for this duty to be relegated by more pressing issues.

The year saw a swing towards a more positive approach to food hygiene with good contact being established with developers and architects in respect of new or altered food premises, the extent of which is quite high for such a relatively small area.

Time available for routine inspection shows an encouraging trend, the need for which can be seen by the total of contraventions found and remedied, 38 and 36, compared with an average over the seven previous years of 18 and 18; there is still some way to go before we reach a satisfactory situation in respect of food, premises and personnel, but it is gratifying to note the improvements being achieved without recourse to legal proceedings.

Contraventions of the Food Hygiene Regulations found during the year are given in Table 4.

Table 4. Contraventions

	<i>Regulation</i> <i>No.</i>	<i>Outstanding</i> <i>31.12.1970</i>	<i>Found</i>	<i>Remedied</i>	<i>Outstanding</i> <i>31.12.1971</i>
Sec.	7	—	2	2	—
	9	—	3	2	1
	10	—	1	1	—
	14	1	—	1	—
	16	—	1	—	1
	18	1	3	2	2
	21	—	1	1	—
	22	—	1	1	—
	23	3	1	3	1
	25	—	19	17	2
	26	—	6	6	—

(ii) The register of food premises includes the following, which are classified in accordance with the main heading of goods sold (e.g. a grocer who also sells bread is classified under ‘grocer’ only, as are food supermarkets):—

Bread and Cake shops	6
(including premises with bakehouses)	
Butchers	9
Fishmongers and Fish Fryers	7
Greengrocers and Fruiterers	6
Grocers	28
Sweet Confectioners	14
Vegetarian Stores	1
<i>Catering Establishments:</i>	
Restaurants, Cafes, and Snack Bars	22
Public Houses and Hotels	35
Office and Works Canteens	13
Private Schools, Nurseries, and Children’s Homes	8
Schools Canteens	19
Nursing Homes and Institutions	7
Clubs	11
Students Hostel	1
Hospital	1
	<hr/>
TOTAL	188

(iii) Premises registered under Section 16

Manufacture of sausages	12
Manufacture of potted, pressed, pickled, or preserved food	16
Storage and sale of ice-cream	88
Manufacture, storage, and sale of ice-cream	1

INFECTIOUS DISEASES

One hundred and twenty-seven enquiries and visits were made in respect of 19 notified cases of infectious disease and food poisoning together with other preventive and control measures.

Of the thirteen known cases of Salmonella infections, ten were involved in the outbreak at Dorking General Hospital and the other three were isolated incidents, the onset of one being in Spain.

The outbreak of salmonellosis at the General Hospital in May was centred on the Maternity Ward and originated from an infected patient admitted in labour. Before this fact was established however, a salmonella infection in certain of the kitchen staff who had recently returned from a trip to Majorca was notified and control measures instituted. We had, therefore, the situation of two strains of S. typhimurium in the hospital at the same time; a confusing factor until the situation was recognised.

In all, some 350 specimens were examined from 200 persons in addition to swabbing of food preparation areas. Transmission of infection was limited to the Maternity Ward and there was no evidence at any time of infection of food. There was no spread of infection from the kitchen staff infected abroad. Admissions to the Maternity Unit ceased and the Unit was closed for five days to allow for complete disinfection.

The causative organism was Salmonella typhimurium, phage types U.129 (Majorca) and U.20 (Maternity).

There were ten notified cases of Infective Jaundice, eight of which were resident in the Goodwyns area.

In addition to the above notified cases, eight further suspect food poisoning incidents were investigated.

AIR POLLUTION CONTROL

Nine of the 14 complaints under this heading arose from the burning of waste material in the open, the majority of which were domestic in nature. Nuisance from domestic garden bonfires is very difficult to deal with and in one instance a circular letter was sent to the residents in a limited area where conditions were particularly bad inviting householders to consider their neighbours and indicating alternative means of disposal. With the increasing density of residential building the disposal of garden refuse by burning or composting becomes more difficult and it may be that at some stage we should consider extending our refuse collection service to include the removal of such waste on payment. The advent of specially marked plastic bags would facilitate the introduction of such a service.

Three of the complaints were simultaneous and alleged nuisance from the brickworks at North Holmwood. Investigations showed that an excessive fall-out of soot had occurred and although on inspection the kiln and ancilliary

plant were operating satisfactorily there is no doubt that there had been a malfunction. In view of the considerable potential nuisance from works of this kind, credit must go to the management for operating twenty-four hours a day continuously throughout the year with a minimum of inconvenience to very near neighbours.

The fume nuisance from a plastics factory in the town referred to in previous annual reports was at last overcome during 1971. This success was due to the active co-operation of the Company concerned and the tenacity of a Horsham firm who specialise in air filtration and who refused to be beaten by the many new problems that this process set. Subject to regular maintenance of the filtration plant, the emission has been reduced to acceptable levels.

One application was made for the approval of a chimney height which was approved subject to the type of fuel to be burned in the furnaces.

CARAVAN SITES

Most of the current site licences were granted in the early sixties after the commencement of the Caravan Sites and Control of Development Act, 1960, although many of the caravan sites date from pre-war. The post-war years saw a swing from recreational to residential use and the effect of the Act was to consolidate this use. The licences have Conditions attached to ensure the health and safety of occupants and preserve the amenity of the area but due to the radical changes in caravanning practice since 1960 it is recognised by the Council that these Conditions are in need of revision. The Council's programme for this revision continued through the year. The proposed alterations in respect of seven of the major sites were sent to the respective licensees and provision made to receive personal representations by the licensees and their advisers; these advisers have included national organisations, surveyors and solicitors specialising in caravan sites legislation. By the end of the year the Sub-Committee, delegated by the Public Health Committee to deal with these matters, had authorised the alterations to the licences of these seven sites and action in respect of the remainder was proceeding.

The Council authorised legal proceedings in respect of contraventions of licence conditions on two sites at Box Hill. The contraventions on one site have been resolved.

No problems arose during the year from gypsies or other itinerant dwellers. One licence for temporary residential use was issued.

Number of site licences in operation:—

Individual	6 Residential
	6 Recreational
Multiple (more than 3)	9 Residential
	5 Recreational

Number of caravans permitted by current licences: 826 including 494 in permanent occupation.

NOISE ABATEMENT

Of five complaints received, two related to barking dogs in private dwellings; informal advice was given.

The other three related to business premises and were dealt with without need for formal action; in one instance, noise from the diesel engine of a grain dryer, the simple expedient of using baled straw as a barrier effectively reduced noise transmission.

PEST CONTROL

(i) Rats and Mice

The work carried out in this connection may be summarised in the same form as is required in the annual return submitted to the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food, in respect of which the Divisional Officer has expressed his appreciation of the high standard set and maintained by this Council.

	TYPE OF PROPERTY	
	<i>Non-Agricultural</i>	<i>Agricultural</i>
1. Number of properties in district	8,799	29
2. (a) Total No. of properties (including nearby premises) inspected following notification	353	3
(b) No. infested by (i) Rats	236	3
(ii) Mice	117	—
3. (a) Total No. of properties inspected for rats and/or mice for reasons other than notification	780	6
(b) No. infested by (i) Rats	32	—
(ii) Mice	11	—

(ii) Insect Pests

A comprehensive service was again provided by the Council through their Pest Control Officer. 445 various premises were treated for diverse infestations including 426 wasps' nests destroyed; 698 visits were made by Mr. Anscomb in connection with insect pest control.

(iii) Pigeon Control

The pigeon control service, operated through a contractor, continued successfully during 1971. The number of feral pigeons about the town is noticeably less and 17 complaints were dealt with satisfactorily. The service is to continue during 1972.

OFFICES, SHOPS AND RAILWAY PREMISES ACT, 1963

1. General

The year under review has been disappointing in that the number of inspections of premises was low. This unsatisfactory position is balanced to some extent by the general knowledge that working conditions in offices, shops and catering establishments in this district are of a reasonably high standard.

The effectiveness of the leaflet 'The Safe Use of Food Slicing Machines' will be difficult to gauge as this is one aspect on which much personal emphasis has been placed during past inspections—there is no substitute for the personal approach. To date, and to the best of our knowledge, there have been no accidents involving slicing machines within the District.

2. Statistical summary

<i>Class of workplace</i>	<i>No. on register at 31st Dec., 1971</i>	<i>No. of persons employed</i>
Offices	82	1,974
Retail shops	175	983
Wholesale shops, warehouses	8	167
Catering establishments open to the public, canteens	46	403*
	<hr/> 311	<hr/> 3,527

**Of these, 307 were employed in catering establishments open to the public, and 96 in canteens*

The total of 3,527 comprise 1,643 males and 1,884 females

3. Results of Inspections

The standard of premises generally is being maintained; an unsafe step in a shop was the only contravention recorded and subsequently remedied.

Summary

(a) Preliminary Notices

<i>Outstanding 31.12.70</i>	<i>Served 1971</i>	<i>Complied with in full 1971</i>	<i>Cancelled 1971</i>	<i>Outstanding 31.12.71</i>
4	1	3	1	1

(b) Contraventions

<i>Section</i>	<i>Outstanding 31.12.70</i>	<i>Found 1971</i>	<i>Remedied 1971</i>	<i>Cancelled 1971</i>	<i>Outstanding 31.12.71</i>
4	1	—	—	—	1
9	1	—	1	—	—
12	1	—	—	—	1
16 (1)	1	1	1	—	1
16 (2)	2	—	1	1	—
17	1	—	1	—	—
50	1	—	1	—	—

4. Accidents

Four accidents were reported during the year, three in retail shops and one in an office; two involved strains, one from pulling a shop trolley and the other reaching for record files; in one case the employee badly bruised a hip on a stock bin, the other involved a butcher’s assistant who cut a finger with a knife. These accidents were small in number and fortunately none was very serious.

SHOP ACTS

No special problems arose in the implementation of this Act, most of the visits to shops being combined with inspections for other purposes.

The following summary indicates the various types of shops in the district.

Arts and Crafts	3
Antiques	15
Boots and Shoes (Sales)	7
Boots and Shoes (Repairs and Accessories)	6
Bread and Cakes	6
Butchers	9
Carpets	3
Children's Wear	1
Chemists	5
Coal Order Offices	1
Coffee Imports and Sales	1
Corn and Seed Merchants	2
Decorators' Sundries	2
Drapers and Haberdashers	8
Dyers and Cleaners	5
Electrical Goods, Radio and Television	15
Fishmongers and Fish Fryers	7
Flooring Specialists	1
Florists	2
Funeral Undertakers	1
Furnishers	6
Gas Appliances	1
Gifts	4
Glass Merchant	1
Greengrocers and Fruiterers	6
Grocers and General Stores	24
Hairdressers	21
Heating Engineers	1
Ironmongers, Hardware and Builders' Sundries	8
Jewellers	5
Launderettes	2
Leather Goods	1
Licensed Premises	43
Milk Shop	1
Motor Vehicles and Accessories	19
Music Shops	1
Newsagents and Stationers	15
Opticians	4
Outfitters	22
Pet Shops	1
Photographic Goods	4
Restaurants, Cafes, and Snack Bars	22
Sports Goods, Cycles and Toys	3
Supermarkets	5
Timber Merchants	2
Tobacco and Sweet Confectionery	14
Typewriters	3
Vegetarian Stores	1

Wine Merchants	5
Wool Shops	3
Wholesale Distributor—Frozen Foods	1
Wholesale Grocers	1
Wholesale Stationers	1
Wholesale Tobacconist	1
Wholesale Wine Merchant	1
	<hr/>
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SLAUGHTER OF ANIMALS ACT, 1958

Five licences were issued during the year to slaughtermen who had previously held licences.

ANIMAL BOARDING ESTABLISHMENTS ACT, 1963

Applications for the renewal of existing licences were received in respect of three premises. All were granted.

PET ANIMALS ACT, 1951

One licence was renewed during the year in respect of the sale of pet animals. On inspection, conditions were found to be satisfactory.

RIDING ESTABLISHMENTS ACT, 1964 and 1970

The four licences issued for 1971 under the Acts were all renewals of existing ones.

Complaints were received in respect of one licensed establishment at the height of the season and inspections showed the complaints to be justified. Remedial steps were taken by the licensee and Committee decided not to institute legal proceedings.

In all instances the premises and animals were inspected by a veterinary surgeon and I am grateful to Mr. Balls for his services and advice in this respect.

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